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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method for providing fault tolerant checkpoint data within a server cluster comprising a production server and a plurality of backup servers comprising:
accessing checkpoint data within the production server;
distributing the checkpoint data; and
storing the distributed checkpoint data on the plurality of backup servers.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the distributing step comprises:
creating a redundancy group of checkpoint data; and
storing the redundancy group of checkpoint data upon the plurality of backup servers.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein creating the redundancy group comprises:
subsegmenting the checkpoint data; and
forming groups of subsegments.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the storing step comprises:
striping the subsegments across a plurality of backup servers.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
creating parity data for each group.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the storing step comprises:
striping the subsegments and parity data across a plurality of backup servers.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the storing step comprises:
mirroring the checkpoint data onto the plurality of backup servers.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
accessing the distributed checkpoint data;

reassembling the checkpoint data using the distributed checkpoint data;

using the checkpoint data to initiate execution of software.

9. (Original) A system for providing fault tolerant checkpoint data comprising:

a production server for generating checkpoint data;

means for forming distributed checkpoint data comprising subsegments of the checkpoint data;

a plurality of backup servers for storing the distributed checkpoint data, where each of the backup servers in said plurality of backup servers stores at least one subsegment of the distributed checkpoint data.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the forming means is located within the production server.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the forming means is located within a backup server within the plurality of backup servers.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the forming means is located within a computer that is separate from the production server or the plurality of backup servers.

13. (Original) The system 6 of claim 9 wherein the means for forming further comprises:

means for striping the subsegments onto the plurality of backup servers.

14. (Original) Apparatus for generating fault tolerant checkpoint data comprising:

a first server that accesses checkpoint data, segments the checkpoint data, and supplies the segments of checkpoint data to a plurality of second servers.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the first server produces parity data for the segments of checkpoint data and supplies the parity data to the plurality of second servers.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the segments of check point data are supplied to the plurality of second servers in a striped manner.

17. (Original) A method of generating fault tolerant checkpoint data comprising:
accessing checkpoint data that is produced by a first server;
segmenting the checkpoint data; and
supplying the segments of checkpoint data to a plurality of second servers.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising generating parity data for the segments of checkpoint data and supplying the parity data to the plurality of second servers.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising supplying the segments of check point data to the plurality of second servers in a striped manner.